



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP 15 2015

OFFICE OF
CIVIL RIGHTS

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Certified Mail #: 7009 2820 0002 1759 1889

In Reply Refer to:

EPA File No: 08R-13-R6

Mr. Garry Sweeney
FHEO Region VI
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
801 Cherry Street
Unit 45, Suite 2500
Fort Worth, Texas 78102-6803

Re: Referral of Administrative Complaints

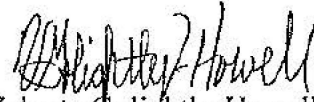
Dear Mr. Sweeney:

This letter is to notify you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Civil Rights (OCR) received complaints on December 5, 2012, March 1, 2013, and April 8 and 9, 2013, from (b) (6) - Privacy of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The complaints allege that the City of Baton Rouge (the City) has violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (Title VI), 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) §§ 2000d *et seq.*, and EPA's nondiscrimination regulations found at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R) Part 7.

Allegedly, the City is "planning to buyout (sic) the community due to negative impacts to the community and complaints." Since the referenced complaints were filed, the City has bought out some members of the community. Because the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may have subject matter expertise over the subject allegation presented in these complaints, OCR is referring them to your office for your review and any further action you deem appropriate. Copies of the complaints are enclosed, and the Complainant is copied on this letter to notify of OCR's referral.

If you have any questions about OCR's disposition of the subject complaints or this letter, please contact Jeryl Covington, Acting Assistant Director, OCR, at 202-564-7713, or have your staff contact Ericka Farrell at 202-564-0717, via email at farrell.ericka@epa.gov or by mail to the U.S. EPA, Office of Civil Rights (Mail Code 1201A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20460-1000. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Velveta Golightly-Howell, Director
Office of Civil Rights

Enclosures

cc: Elise Packard, Associate General Counsel
Civil Rights and Finance Law Office (MC 2399A)

Samuel Coleman, Deputy Regional Administrator
Region VI, (MC-6RA)

(b) (6) - Privacy Complainant